

Design Considerations and Issues

Preliminary investigations have identified the following considerations in the study area:

- Traffic congestion
- Access management
- Wildlife concerns
- Cultural resources
- Visual character
- Forest restoration
- Recreational areas
- Intersection improvements
- Drainage
- Pavement maintenance
- Local and regional planning
- Planned development
- Private property
- Utility conflicts
- Noise
- Air and water quality

Environmental Study Process

The improvement alternatives will be developed with your input and evaluated for environmental issues, consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA requires federal agencies to include environmental values in their decision-making processes by considering the environmental, social, and economic impacts of proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions.

An environmental document will be prepared concurrent with the engineering study. Currently, the Study Team is gathering information on the study area to identify potential constraints and issues.

Study Schedule

At this time, we are in the earliest part of the planning study - the scoping phase - in which the Study Team seeks input on project constraints and evaluation criteria from the public and government agencies. The input we receive from you tonight will help us identify the critical issues that will be considered with this study.

Over the next few months, the Study Team will develop and evaluate improvement alternatives. The issues, concerns, and opportunities that you share tonight will be considered in that process. A follow-up public meeting will be held after the initial evaluation is complete to share the findings of the study and get further input from you.

For More Information, Contact:

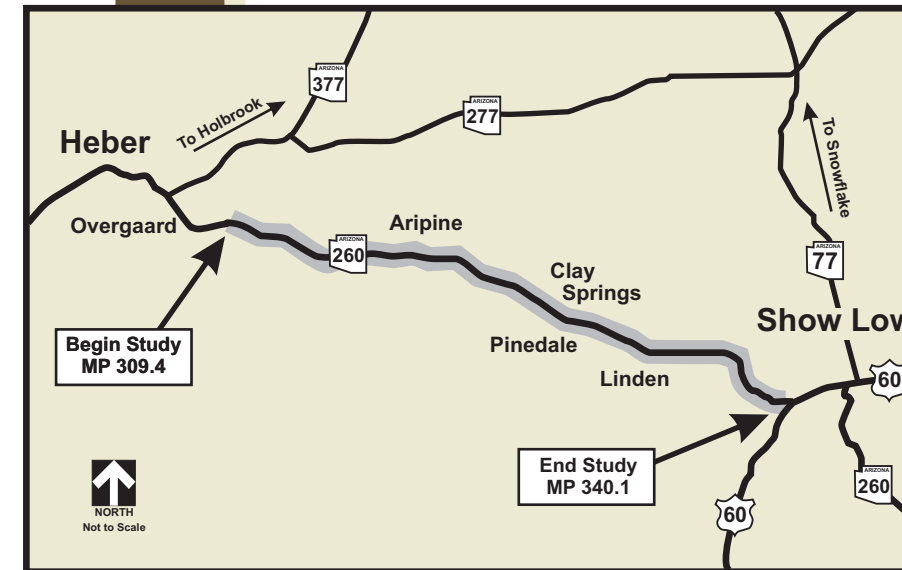
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ADOT Project No. 260 NA 309 H7254 01L
Federal Aid Project No. STP-260-B(AWN)

SR 260 Heber to Show Low Location/Design Concept Report & Environmental Studies



Study Vicinity Map

Project Website: www.azdot.gov/Highways/Projects/SR260/Index.asp

Meeting Purpose & Details

The primary objectives of tonight's meeting are to learn about issues and concerns you feel should be addressed in this project, obtain your input, and to listen to your suggestions. The Study Team will work proactively with the public as part of the study process.



Public Scoping Meeting May 12 & 13, 2008

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), in coordination with the Federal Highway Administration and the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, has initiated a study to identify alternatives that would improve traffic flow on SR 260 from Columbia Lane at Milepost (MP) 309.4 east of Overgaard to the SR 260/US 60 intersection at MP 340.1 in Show Low. The alternatives will include concepts such as constructing additional lanes and consolidating access points in the study area.

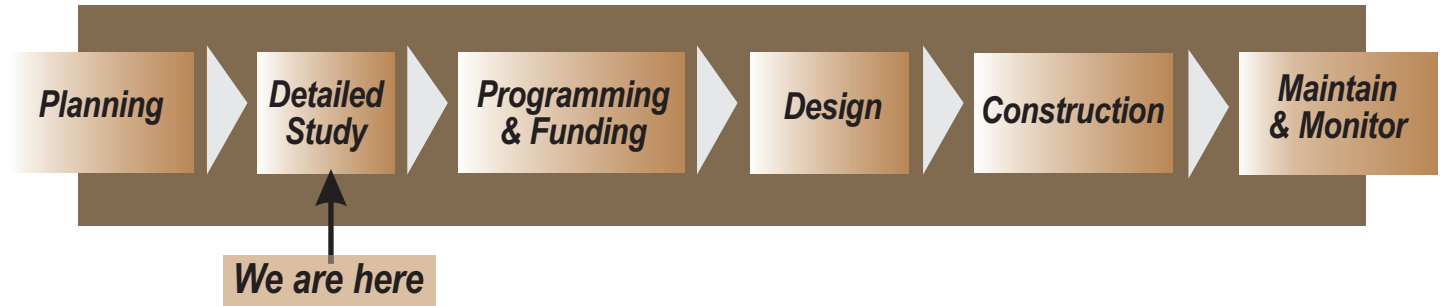
The purpose of the study is to evaluate improvements to the existing roadway that would provide for current and future traffic demands in the region. This segment of SR 260 is used by regional and local traffic, with the majority of motorists traveling through the Heber and Show Low communities and continuing to popular recreational sites throughout northeastern Arizona. Traffic volumes will increase as these communities and the region continue to grow.

The study will identify improvement alternatives that would accommodate projected traffic volumes in the year 2030. The alternatives will be evaluated for potential environmental, social, and economic impacts. The study results will be used to help ADOT plan for the future transportation needs of the region.

About Tonight's Meeting

- Please review the exhibits around the room. Study Team members are available to answer questions and discuss details.
- A question and answer session will be held immediately following the presentation. To have your question answered in front of the group, please write your question on the yellow card provided and hand it to any Study Team member.
- Your input is important to us. Be sure to complete a comment sheet. You may leave it with us tonight or submit it to the Study Team by **June 13, 2008**, as directed on the form.

The Project Development Process



PLANNING

Long-range planning to determine future transportation needs and potential improvements is conducted well in advance of design and construction. Area population growth, anticipated land use, jurisdictional responsibilities, and other factors are used to determine the need, feasibility, and general location of future improvements.

DETAILED STUDY

The study phase establishes the location and basic characteristics of a roadway. Accompanying this are detailed environmental studies, identification and evaluation of alternatives, general cost estimates, coordination with public and private partners, and the determination of feasibility to move to the design phase. Pending the findings of the study, FHWA will decide whether or not to advance an alternative to design.

PROGRAMMING & FUNDING

The State Transportation Board develops the Five-Year Transportation Facilities Construction Program to fund the design and construction of transportation projects throughout Arizona. Projects are prioritized for the program according to the guidelines set under the Arizona Priority Programming Law.

DESIGN

The design of a roadway involves several stages of detailed engineering and technical review and interim levels of approval. The final design of the roadway is represented in plans and specifications that construction contractors use to prepare construction bids. During final design, ADOT acquires new right-of-way required for the roadway improvements.

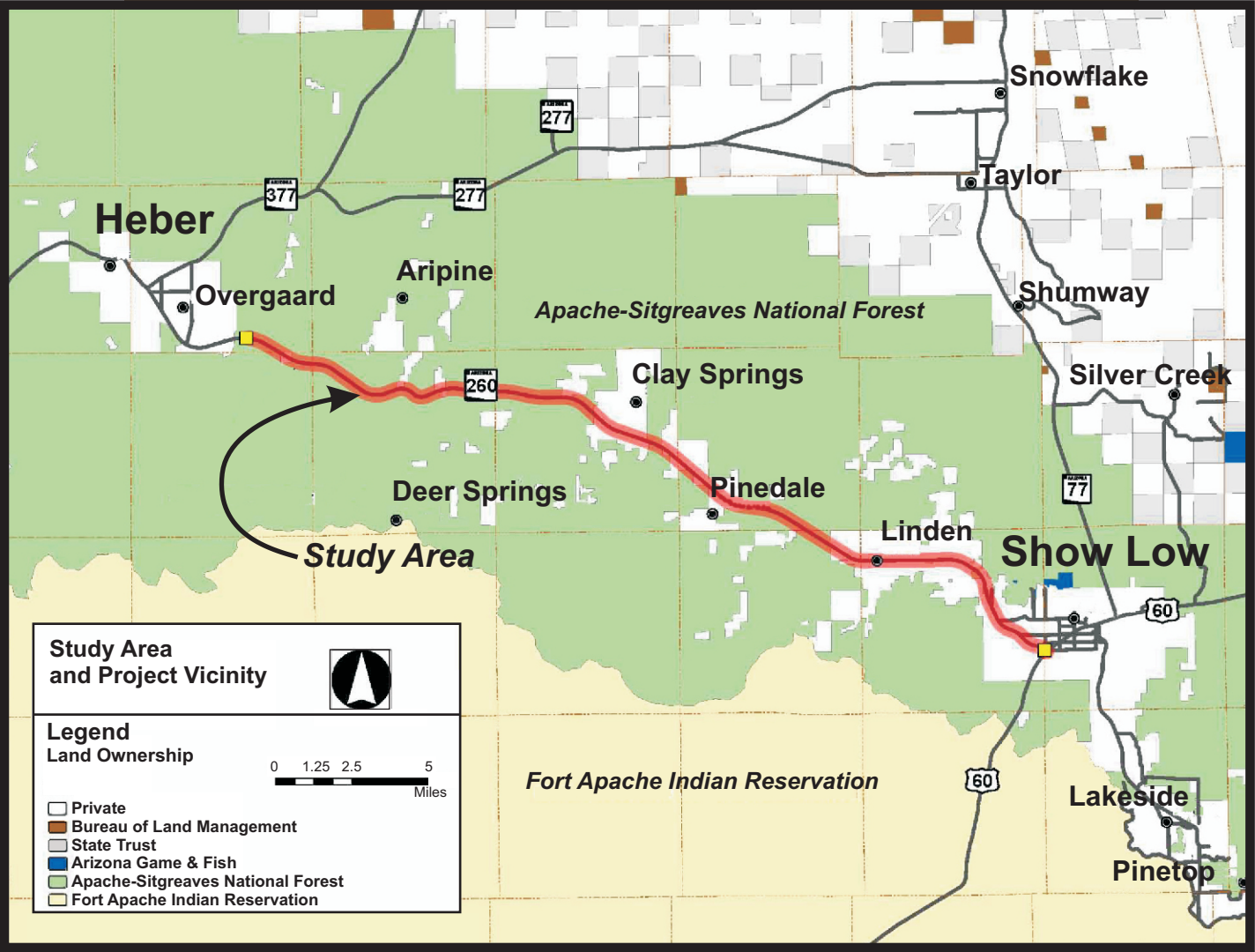
CONSTRUCTION

Road construction for projects is based on detailed plans and specifications provided to the contractor following the approved design. As construction occurs, ADOT continually looks for ways to improve the construction process for maximum efficiency and minimal community impact.

MAINTAIN & MONITOR

ADOT will maintain the facility and will monitor it to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the traveling public.

Study Area and Project Vicinity



SR 260 Heber to Show Low Location/Design Concept Report & Environmental Studies